

Article 17 Conservation Status Assessments of Habitats and Species listed under the Habitats Directive [92/43/EEC]

Background

European Union Member states are required to report at 6-yearly intervals on the implementation of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora). This report details progress with the implementation of the Directive including advancements in management plans for protected areas; conservation measures undertaken in protected areas and developments in monitoring and surveillance of our protected species and habitats.

The report also includes the first baseline assessment of the conservation status of habitats and species that are afforded protection by the Directive. Each assessment includes an evaluation of the range, habitat area, habitat structure and functions, species population estimates, area of suitable habitat for species and future prospects and concludes with an overall verdict of “good-green”, “inadequate-amber” or “bad-red”. The assessments were derived following strict EU guideline by NPWS Scientific staff and Ecological experts in the Scientific Community.

The bad rating for so many habitats is not surprising after 35 years of agricultural intensification and 15 years of economic boom. The habitats and species have been listed on the Directive due to their perceived threatened status in the EU, therefore unfavourable ratings at this early stage of the implementation of the Directive is to be expected. The critical issues are the steps we take over the next 6 years and beyond to maintain and restore habitats, particularly in our protected areas. This will require careful prioritisation, planning and execution, and full engagement with other government Departments, local authorities, landowners, farmers and other stakeholders.

What follows is a summary of the results from the 2007 report. The complete results, including supporting documentation, will be published in full once the process is complete.

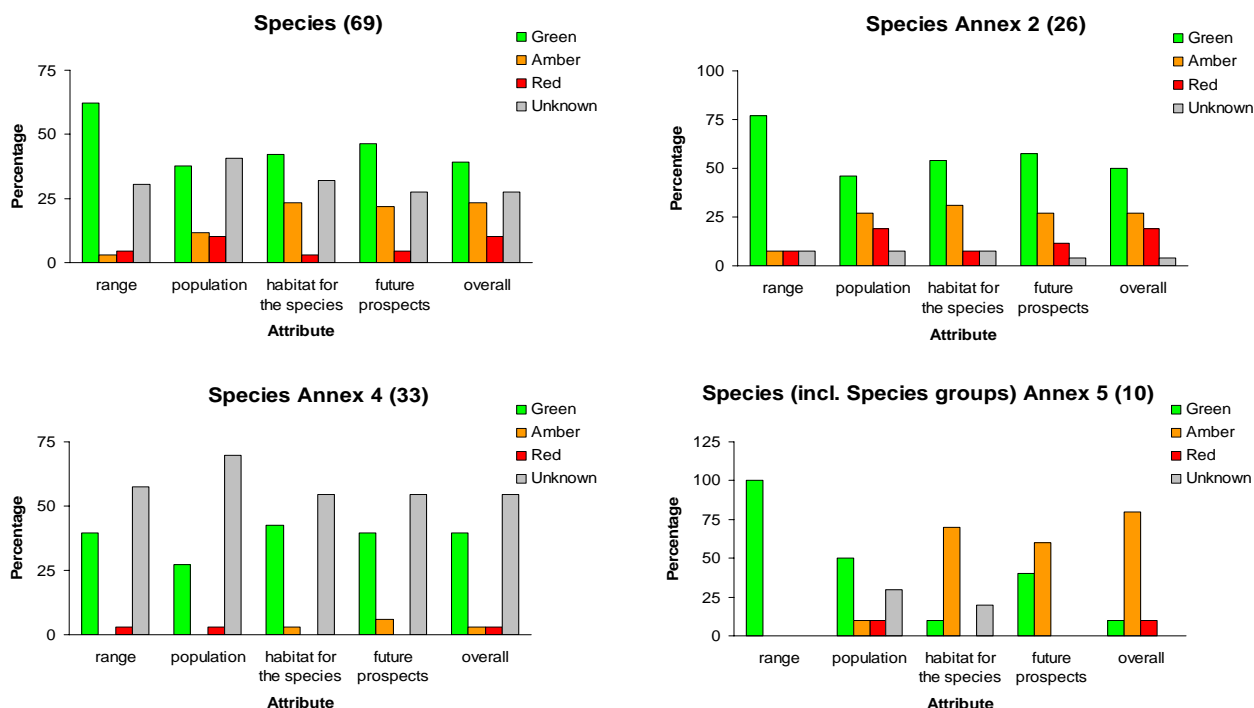
Species' Assessments

Table 1: Conservation Status of Species listed on Annexes of the Habitats Directive as reported in the 2007 Article 17 report.

| Code | Species Name | Annex | Range | Population | Suitable Habitat | Future Prospects | Overall |
|------|--|---------|---------|------------|------------------|------------------|---------|
| 1303 | Lesser Horseshoe Bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1364 | Grey Seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) | Annex 2 | Unknown | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1365 | Common Seal (<i>Phoca vitulina vitulina</i>) | Annex 2 | Unknown | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1349 | Bottle-Nosed Dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Unknown | Green | Green | Green |
| 1102 | Allis Shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 1103 | Twaite Shad (<i>Alosa fallax fallax</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Red | Unknown | Amber | Red |
| 5046 | Killarney Shad (<i>Alosa fallax killarnensis</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1099 | River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1096 | Brook Lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1095 | Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) | Annex 2 | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1024 | Kerry Slug (<i>Geomalacus maculosus</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1029 | Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) | Annex 2 | Red | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 1990 | Irish Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 1092 | White-Clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) | Annex 2 | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1065 | Marsh Fritillary (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1355 | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Amber | Green | Green | Amber |
| 1106 | Atlantic Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Red | Amber | Amber | Red |
| 1351 | Harbour Porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1014 | <i>Vertigo angustior</i> | Annex 2 | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1013 | <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> | Annex 2 | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1016 | <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> | Annex 2 | Red | Red | Amber | Red | Red |
| 1528 | Marsh Saxifrage (<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1421 | Killarney Fern (<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1833 | Slender Naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Amber | Amber | Green | Amber |
| 1395 | Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1393 | Shining Sickle Moss (<i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i>) | Annex 2 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |

| Code | Species Name | Annex | Range | Population | Suitable Habitat | Future Prospects | Overall |
|------|--|---------|---------|------------|------------------|------------------|---------|
| 1223 | Leatherback Turtle (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Amber | Amber |
| 1330 | Whiskered Bat (<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1322 | Natterer's Bat (<i>Myotis nattereri</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1314 | Daubenton's Bat (<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1331 | Leisler's Bat (<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1309 | Common Pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 5009 | Soprano Pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1320 | Brandt's (<i>Myotis brandtii</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1317 | Nathusius' Pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1326 | Brown Long-Eared Bat (<i>Plecotus auritus</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1202 | Natterjack Toad (<i>Bufo calamita</i>) | Annex 4 | Red | Red | Amber | Amber | Red |
| 1350 | Common Dolphin (<i>Delphinus delphis</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Unknown | Green | Green | Green |
| 2621 | Fin Whale (<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Unknown | Green | Green | Green |
| 2618 | Minke Whale (<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Unknown | Green | Green | Green |
| 2031 | White-Sided Dolphin (<i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i>) | Annex 4 | Green | Unknown | Green | Green | Green |
| 5020 | Blue Whale (<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2035 | Cuvier's Beaked Whale (<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 1345 | Humpback Whale (<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2027 | Killer Whale (<i>Orcinus orca</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2029 | Long-Finned Pilot Whale (<i>Globicephala melas</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 5033 | Northern Bottlenose Whale (<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2030 | Risso's Dolphin (<i>Grampus griseus</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2619 | Sei Whale (<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Green | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2038 | Sowerby's Beaked Whale (<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 5031 | Sperm Whale (<i>Physeter catodon</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2034 | Striped Dolphin (<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2032 | White-Beaked Dolphin (<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>) | Annex 4 | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| 2028 | False Killer Whale (<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>) | Annex 4 | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant |
| 5034 | Gervais' Beaked Whale (<i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i>) | Annex 4 | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant |
| 1348 | Northern Right Whale (<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>) | Annex 4 | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant |
| 2622 | Pygmy Sperm Whale (<i>Kogia breviceps</i>) | Annex 4 | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant |
| 2037 | True's Beaked Whale (<i>Mesoplodon mirus</i>) | Annex 4 | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant |
| 5029 | Beluga/White Whale (<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>) | Annex 4 | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant | vagrant |
| 1334 | Mountain Hare (<i>Lepus timidus</i>) | Annex 5 | Green | Unknown | Amber | Green | Amber |
| 1357 | Pine Marten (<i>Martes martes</i>) | Annex 5 | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 1376 | Maerl - <i>Lithothamnion corralloides</i> | Annex 5 | Green | Unknown | Unknown | Amber | Amber |
| 1377 | Maerl - <i>Phymatolithon calcareum</i> | Annex 5 | Green | Unknown | Unknown | Amber | Amber |
| 1213 | Common Frog (<i>Rana temporaria</i>) | Annex 5 | Green | Green | Amber | Green | Amber |
| NA | Pollan (<i>Coregonus autumnalis</i>) | Annex 5 | Green | Red | Amber | Amber | Red |
| 5113 | <i>Cladonia</i> subgenus <i>cladina</i> | Annex 5 | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1413 | <i>Lycopodium</i> genus | Annex 5 | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1400 | <i>Leucobryum glaucum</i> | Annex 5 | Green | Green | Amber | Green | Amber |
| 1409 | <i>Sphagnum</i> genus | Annex 5 | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |

Figure 1: Summary of Conservation status for all species, Annex 2, Annex 4 and Annex 5



Habitats

Table 2: Conservation Status of Habitats listed on Annex 1 of the Habitats Directive as reported in the 2006 Article 17 report.

| Codes | Habitat Names (summarised) | Range | Area | Structure & Functions (Condition) | Future Prospects | Overall |
|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------|
| 1110 | Sandbanks | Green | Green | Green | Amber | Amber |
| 1130 | Estuaries | Green | Green | Unknown | Amber | Amber |
| 1140 | Tidal Mudflats | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1150 | Lagoons* | Green | Amber | Red | Amber | Red |
| 1160 | Large Shallow Inlets and Bays | Green | Green | Unknown | Amber | Amber |
| 1170 | Reefs | Green | Unknown | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1210 | Drift Lines | Green | Amber | Green | Amber | Amber |
| 1220 | Perennial Vegetation of Stony Banks | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1230 | Sea Cliffs | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1310 | Salicornia mud | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1320 | Spartinion (invasive) | Green | Amber | Green | Amber | Amber |
| 1330 | Atlantic Salt Meadows | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1410 | Mediterranean Salt Meadows | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 1420 | Halophilous Scrub | Green | Amber | Amber | Red | Red |
| 2110 | Embryonic Shifting Dunes | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 2120 | Marram Dunes (White Dunes) | Green | Amber | Red | Red | Red |
| 2130 | Fixed Dunes (Grey Dunes)* | Green | Amber | Red | Red | Red |
| 2140 | Decalcified Empetrum Dunes* | Green | Amber | Red | Amber | Red |
| 2150 | Decalcified Dune Heath* | Green | Amber | Red | Amber | Red |
| 2170 | Dunes with Creeping Willow | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 2190 | Dune Slack | Green | Amber | Amber | Red | Red |
| 2IAO | Machair* | Green | Amber | Red | Red | Red |
| 8330 | Marine Caves | Green | Unknown | Green | Green | Green |
| 3110 | Lowland Oligotrophic Lakes | Green | Green | Red | Red | Red |

| Codes | Habitat Names (summarised) | Range | Area | Structure & Functions (Condition) | Future Prospects | Overall |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------|
| 3130 | Upland Oligotrophic Lakes | Green | Green | Red | Red | Red |
| 3140 | Hard Water Lakes | Green | Green | Red | Red | Red |
| 3150 | Natural Eutrophic Lakes | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown | Amber | Red |
| 3160 | Dystrophic Lakes | Green | Unknown | Red | Red | Red |
| 3180 | Turloughs* | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 3260 | Floating River Vegetation | Green | Green | Red | Red | Red |
| 3270 | Chenopodium rubri | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 4010 | Wet Heath | Green | Unknown | Red | Red | Red |
| 4030 | Dry Heaths | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 4060 | Alpine and Subalpine Heath | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 5130 | Juniper Scrub | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 6130 | Calaminarian Grassland | Green | Green | Green | Amber | Amber |
| 6210 | Calcareous Grassland (Orchid-Rich*) | Green | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 6230 | Species-Rich Nardus Upland Grassland* | Green | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 6410 | Molinia Meadows | Green | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 6430 | Hydrophilous Tall Herb | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 6510 | Lowland Hay Meadows | Red | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 7110 | Raised Bog (Active)* | Red | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 7130 | Blanket Bog (Active)* | Green | Red | Amber | Red | Red |
| 7120 | Degraded Raised Bogs | Green | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 7140 | Transition Mires | Green | Green | Red | Red | Red |
| 7150 | Rhynchosporion Depressions | Green | Green | Green | Green | Green |
| 7210 | Cladium Fen* | Green | Green | Red | Red | Red |
| 7220 | Petrifying Springs* | Green | Green | Red | Red | Red |
| 7230 | Alkaline Fens | Green | Green | Red | Red | Red |
| 8110 | Siliceous Scree | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 8120 | Eutric Scree | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 8210 | Calcareous Rocky | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 8220 | Siliceous Rocky | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 8240 | Limestone Pavement* | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 8310 | Caves | Green | Unknown | Green | Green | Green |
| 91A0 | Old Oak Woodlands | Green | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 91D0 | Bog Woodland* | Green | Amber | Amber | Amber | Amber |
| 91E0 | Residual Alluvial Forests* | Green | Red | Red | Red | Red |
| 91J0 | <i>Taxus baccata</i> Woods* | Red | Red | Red | Red | Red |

Figure 2: Summary of Conservation status for all habitats

